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19.

ARTICLES AGREED VPON

by the Arch-Biſhops and Biſhops of both *Provinces*, and the whole CLERGIE,

In the Convocation holden at LONDON, in the yeer 1562.

For the avoiding of diverſities of opinions, *and for the ſtabliſhing of Conſent touching* true RELIGION.

Re-printed by His *Majeſties* Commandment: with His Royall *Declaration* prefixed thereunto.

¶ Imprinted at London by ROBERT BARKER, Printer to the Kings moſt Excellent MAJESTIE: And by the Aſſignes of JOHN BILL. 1638.

I.

HIS MAIESTIES DECLARATION.

BEing by Gods ordinance, according to Our just Title, Defender of the Faith, *and Supream Governour of the Church within these Our Dominions, We hold it most agreeable to this Our Kingly Office, & Our own Religious zeal, to conserve and maintain the Church committed to Our charge in the unitie of true Religion, & in the bond of peace: and not to suffer unnecessary Disputations*

tations, altercations, or queſtions to be rayſed, which may nouriſh faction both in the Church and Common-wealth. We have therefore upon mature deliberation, and with the advice of ſo many of Our Biſhops as might conveniently be called together, thought fit to make this Declaration following. That the Articles of the Church of England (which have been allowed and authorized heretofore, and which Our Clergie generally have ſubſcribed unto) do contain the true doctrine of the Church of England, agreeable to Gods word: which We do therefore ratifie and confirme, requiring all Our loving Subjects to continue in the uniform profeſſion thereof, and prohibiting the leaſt difference from the ſaid Articles, which to that end We command to be new printed, & this Our declaration to be publiſhed therewith.

That We are ſupream Governour of the

Church

Church of England: and that if any difference arise about the externall policie, concerning Injunctions, Canons, *or other* Constitutions *whatsoever thereto belonging, the Clergie in their Convocation is to order and settle them, having first obtained leave under Our broad Seal so to do: and We approving their said Ordinances and Constitutions, providing that none be made contrary to the Laws and Customes of the Land.*

That out of Our Princely care, that the Churchmen may do the work which is proper unto them; the Bishops and Clergie, from time to time in Convocatiõ, upon their humble desire shall have licence under Our broad Seal, to deliberate of, and to do all such things, as being made plain by them, & assented unto by Us, shall concern the setled continuance of the doctrine & discipline of the Church of England now established;

from which We will not endure any varying, or departing in the least degree.

That for the present, though some differences have been ill raised, yet We take comfort in this, that all Clergie-men within Our Realm, have alwayes most willingly subscribed to the Articles established which is an argument to Us, that they all agree in the true usuall literall meaning of the said Articles, and that even in those curious points in which the present differences lie, men of all sorts take the Articles of the Church of England to be for them, which is an argumẽt again, that none of them intend any desertion of the Articles established.

That therefore in these both curious and unhappy differences, which have for so many hundred yeers, in different times and places, exercised the Church of Christ: *We will that all further curious search be laid aside, & these disputes shut up in Gods promises*

miſes, as they be generally ſet forth to Us, in the holy Scriptures; and the generall meaning of the Articles of the Church of England according to them. And that no man hereafter ſhall either print or preach, to draw the Article aſide any way, but ſhall ſubmit to it in the plain and full meaning thereof: And ſhall not put his own ſenſe or Comment to be the meaning of the Article, but ſhall take it in the literall and Grammaticall ſenſe.

That if any publique Reader in either Our Univerſities, or any Head or Maſter of a Colledge, or any other perſon reſpectively in either of them, ſhall affix any new ſenſe to any Article, or ſhall publiquely read, determine, or hold any publique diſputation, or ſuffer any ſuch to be held either way, in either the Univerſities or Colledges reſpectively; or if any Divine in the Univerſities ſhall preach or print any thing either way, o-

ther then is already eſtabliſhed in Convocation with Our Royall aſſent: he, or they the offenders, ſhall be liable to Our diſpleaſure, & the Churches cenſure in Our Commiſſion Eccleſiaſticall, as well as any other: and We will ſee there ſhall be due execution upon them.

ARTICLES

ARTICLES OF RELIGION.

1.

Of faith in the holy TRINITIE.

THere is but one living and true God, everlasting, without body, parts, or passions; of infinite power, wisdome, and goodnesse, the Maker and preserver of all things both visible and invisible. And in unity of this Godhead there be three persons, of one substance, power, and eternity; the Father, the Sonne, and the holy Ghost.

2.

Of the Word or Sonne of God, which was made very man.

THe Sonne, which is the Word of the Father, begotten from everlasting of the Father, the very and eternall God of one substance with the Father, took mans nature in the wombe of the blessed Virgin, of her substance: so that two whole and perfect natures, that is to say, the Godhead and manhood, were joyned together in one person,

never to be devided, whereof is one Christ, very God and very man, who truely suffered, was crucified, dead, and buried, to reconcile his Father to us, and to be a sacrifice, not onely for originall guilt, but also for actuall sinnes of men.

3.

¶ Of the going down of Christ into Hell.

AS Christ died for us, and was buried: so also is it to be beleeved, that he went down into hell.

4.

¶ Of the resurrection of Christ.

CHrist did truely rise again from death, and took again his body, with flesh, bones, and all things appertaining to the perfection of mans nature, wherewith he ascended into heaven, and there sitteth, untill he return to judge all men at the last day.

5.

¶ Of the holy Ghost.

THe holy Ghost, proceeding from the father and the Sonne, is of one Substance, Majestie and Glory, with the Father and the Sonne, very and eternall God.

6.

¶ Of the sufficiencie of the Holy Scriptures for salvation.

HOly Scripture containeth all things necessary to salvation: so that whatsoever is not read therein, nor may be proved thereby, is not to be required of any man, that it should be beleeved as

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an Article of the faith, or be thought requiſite or neceſſary to ſalvation. In the name of the holy Scripture, we do underſtand thoſe Canonicall Bookes of the Old and New Teſtament, of whoſe authority was never any doubt in the Church.

Of the names and number of the *Canonicall Books.*

Geneſis.
Exodus.
Leviticus.
Numeri.
Deuteronomium.
Ioſue.
Iudges.
Ruth.
The 1. Book of Samuel.
The 2. Book of Samuel.
The 1. Book of Kings.
The 2. Book of Kings.
The 1. Book of Chron.
The 2. Book of Chron.
The 1. Book of Eſdras.
The 2. Book of Eſdras.
The Book of Heſter.
The Book of Iob.
The Pſalmes.
The Proverbs.
Eccleſiaſt. or Preacher.
Cantica, or ſongs of Solom.
4. Prophets the greater.
12. Prophets the leſſe.

And the other Bookes (as Hierome ſaith) the Church doeth read for example of life and inſtruction of manners: but yet doeth it not apply them to eſtabliſh any doctrine; Such are theſe following.

The 3. Book of Eſdras.
The 4. Book of Eſdras.
The Book of Tobias.
The Book of Iudeth.
The reſt of the Book of Heſter.
The Book of Wiſdome.
Ieſus the ſonne of Sirach.
Baruch the Prophet.
The ſong of the three children.
The Story of Suſanna.
Of Bell and the Dragon.
The prayer of Manaſſes.
The 1. Book of Maccabees.
The 2. Book of Maccabees.

All the Books of the New Testament, as they are commonly received, we do receive and account hem Canonicall.

7.

Of the Old Testament.

THe Old Testament is not contrary to the New, for both in the Old and new Testament, everlasting life is offered to mankinde by Christ, who is the onely Mediator between God and man, being both God and man. Wherefore they are not to be heard which feigne that the old fathers did look onely for transitory promises. Although the Law given from God by Moses, as touching Ceremonies and Rites, do not binde Christian men, nor the civill precepts thereof ought of necessity to be received in any Common wealth: yet notwithstanding, no Christian man whatsoever, is free from the obedience of the Commandments, which are called Morall.

8.

Of the three Creeds.

THe three Creeds, Nice Creed, Athanasius Creed, and that which is commonly called the Apostles Creed, ought thoroughly to be received and beleeved: for they may be proved by most certain warrants of holy Scripture.

9.

Of originall birth or sinne.

ORiginall sinne standeth not in the following of Adam, (as the Pelagians do vainly talk) but it is the fault and corruption of the nature of every man

man, that naturally is ingendred of the off-spring of Adam, whereby man is very farre gone from originall righteousnesse, and is of his own nature enclined to evill, so that the flesh lusteth alwayes contrary to the spirit, and therefore in every person born into this world, it deserveth Gods wrath and damnation. And this infection of nature doth remain, yea, in them that are regenerated, whereby the lust of the flesh, called in Greek φρόνημα σαρκὸς, which some do expound the wisdome, some sensuality, some the affection, some the desire of the flesh, is not subject to the law of God. And although there is no condemnation for them that beleeve and are baptized, yet the Apostle doth confesse, that concupiscence and lust, hath of it self the nature of sinne.

10.

Of free-will.

THe condition of man after the fall of Adam, is such, that he cannot turn and prepare himself by his own naturall strength and good workes to faith and calling upon God: Wherefore we have no power to do good workes pleasant and acceptable to God, without the grace of God by Christ preventing us, that we may have a good will, and working with us, when we have that good will.

11.

Of the Iustification of man.

WE are accounted righteous before God, onely for the merit of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ by faith, and not for our own workes, or deservings. Wherefore, that we are justified by faith

faith onely, is a most wholesome doctrine, and very full of comfort, as more largely is expressed in the Homily of Justification.

12.

¶ Of good works.

ALbeit that good works, which are the fruits of faith, and follow after Justification, cannot put away our sinnes, and endure the severity of Gods Judgement, yet are they pleasing and acceptable to God in Christ, and do spring out necessarily of a true and lively faith, in so much that by them a lively faith may be as evidently known, as a tree discerned by the fruit.

13.

¶ Of works before Iustification.

WOrks done before the grace of Christ, and the inspiration of his Spirit, are not pleasant to God, forasmuch as they spring not of faith in Jesu Christ, neither do they make men meet to receive grace, or (as the School-Authors say) deserve grace of congruitie: yea, rather for that they are not done as God hath willed and commanded them to be done, we doubt not but they have the nature of sinne.

14.

¶ Of works of Supererogation.

VOluntary works besids, over and above Gods Commandments, which they call works of Supererogation, cannot be taught without arrogancie and impietie. For by them men

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do declare that they do not onely render unto God as much as they are bound to do, but that they do more for his sake, then of bounden duety is required: Whereas Christ saith plainly, When ye have done all that are commanded to you, say, We are unprofitable servants.

15.

Of Christ alone without sinne.

Christ in the truth of our nature, was made like unto us in all things (sinne onely except) from which he was clearly void, both in his flesh, and in his Spirit. He came to be a Lambe without spot, who by sacrifice of himself once made, should take away the sinnes of the world: and sinne (as Saint John saith) was not in him. But all we the rest (although baptized, and born again in Christ) yet offend in many things, and if we say we have no sinne, we deceive our selves, and the truth is not in us.

16.

Of sinne after Baptisme.

Not every deadly sinne willingly committed after Baptisme, is sinne against the holy Ghost, and unpardonable. Wherfore the grant of repentance is not to be denyed to such as fall into sinne after Baptisme. After we have received the holy Ghost, we may depart from grace given, and fall into sinne, and by the grace of God (we may) arise again, and amend our lives. And therfore they are to be condemned, which say they can no more sinne as long as they live heer, to denie the place of forgivenesse to such as truely repent.

17.
Of Predestination and Election.

PRedestination to life is the everlasting purpose of God, whereby (before the foundations of the world were laid) he hath constantly decreed by his counsell, secret to us, to deliver from curse and damnation, those whom he hath chosen in Christ out of mankinde, and to bring them by Christ to everlasting salvation, as vessels made to honour. Wherefore they which be indued with so excellent a benefit of God, be called according to Gods purpose by his Spirit working in due season: they through grace obey the calling: they be justified freely: they be made sonnes of God by adoption: they be made like the Image of his onely begotten Sonne Jesus Christ: they walk religiously in good workes, and at length by Gods mercy they attain to everlasting felicitie.

As the godly consideration of Predestination and our Election in Christ, is full of sweet, pleasant, and unspeakable comfort to godly persons, and such as feel in themselves the working of the Spirit of Christ, mortifying the workes of the flesh, and their earthly members, and drawing up their minde to high and heavenly things, as well because it doeth greatly establish and confirme their faith of eternall salvation, to be enjoyed through Christ, as because it doeth fervently kindle their love towards God: So, for curious and carnall persons, lacking the Spirit of Christ, to have continually before their eyes the sentence of Gods predestination, is a most dangerous downfall, whereby the devill

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doeth thrust them either into desperation, or into wretchlesnesse of most unclean living, no lesse perilous then desperation.

Furthermore, we must receive Gods promises, in such wise as they be generally set forth to us in holy Scripture: and in our doings, that will of God is to be followed, which we have expressly declared unto us in the Word of God.

18.
Of obtaining eternall Salvation only by the Name of Christ.

They also are to be had accursed, that presume to say, that every man shall bee saved by the law or sect which he professeth, so that he be diligent to frame his life according to that law, and the light of nature. For holy Scripture doth set out unto us only the Name of Jesus Christ, whereby men must be saved.

19.
Of the Church.

The visible Church of Christ is a congregation of faithfull men, in the which the pure Word of God is preached, and the Sacraments be duly ministred, according to Christs ordinance, in all those things that of necessity are requisite to the same.

As the Church of Hierusalem, Alexandria, and Antioch have erred: So also the Church of Rome hath erred, not only in their living and manner of ceremonies, but also in matters of faith.

20.

Of the authoritie of the Church.

THe Church hath power to decree Rites or Ceremonies, and authoritie in controversies of faith: And yet it is not lawfull for the Church to ordaine any thing that is contrary to Gods Word written, neither may it so expound one place of Scripture, that it be repugnant to an other. Wherefore although the Church be a witnes and a keeper of holy Writ, yet as it ought not to decree any thing against the same, so besides the same ought it not to enforce any thing to be beleeved for necessitie of salvation.

21.

Of the authority of generall Councels.

GEnerall Councels may not be gathered together without the commandment and will of Princes. And when they be gathered together (forasmuch as they be an assembly of men, whereof all be not governed with the Spirit and Word of God) they may erre, and sometime have erred, even in things pertaining unto God. Wherefore things ordained by them as necessary to salvation, have neither strength nor authoritie, unlesse it may be declared that they be taken out of holy Scripture.

22.

Of purgatorie.

THe Romish doctrine concerning Purgatorie, Pardons, worshipping and adoration, as well of Images, as of Reliques, and also invocation of Saints,

Saints, is a fond thing, vainly invented, and grounded upon no warranty of Scripture, but rather repugnant to the Word of God.

23.

Of ministring in the Congregation.

IT is not lawfull for any man to take upon him the office of publike preaching, or ministring the Sacraments in the Congregation, before he be lawfully called, and sent to execute the same. And those we ought to judge lawfully called and sent, which be chosen and called to this worke by men, who have publike authoritie given unto them in the Congregation, to call and send Ministers into the Lords vineyard.

24.

Of speaking in the Congregation, in such a tongue as the people understandeth.

IT is a thing plainly repugnant to the Word of God, and the custom of the Primitive Church, to have publique prayer in the Church, or to minister the Sacraments in a tongue not understanded of the people.

25.

Of the Sacraments.

SAcraments ordeined of Christ, be not onely badges or tokens of Christian mens profession: but rather they be certain sure witnesses, and effectuall signes of grace and Gods good will towards us, by the which hee doth worke invisibly in us,

and doth not only quicken, but also stengthen and confirm our faith in him.

There are two Sacraments ordained of Christ our Lord in the Gospel, that is to say, Baptisme, and the Supper of the Lord.

Those five commonly called Sacraments, that is to say, Confirmation, Penance, Orders, Matrimony, and extream Unction, are not to be counted for Sacraments of the Gospel, being such as have grown, partly of the corrupt following of the Apostles, partly are states of life allowed in the Scriptures: but yet have not like nature of Sacraments with Baptisme and the Lords Supper, for that they have not any visible signe or ceremony ordained of God.

The Sacraments were not ordained of Christ to be gazed upon, or to be carried about, but that we should duly use them. And in such only, as worthily receive the same, they have a wholsome effect or operation: But they that receive them unworthily, purchase to themselves damnation, as S. Paul saith.

26.

Of the unworthinesse of the Ministers, which hinder not the effect of the Sacraments.

ALthough in the visible Church the evill be ever mingled with the good, and sometime the evill have chief authority in the ministration of the Word and Sacraments: yet forasmuch as they do not the same in their own name, but in Christs, and do minister by his commission and authoritie, we may use their ministrie, both in hearing the Word of God, and in the receiving of the Sacraments.

ments. Neither is the effect of Christs ordinance taken away by their wickednesse, nor the grace of Gods gifts diminished from such, as by faith, and rightly do receive the Sacraments ministred unto them, which be effectuall, because of Christs institution and promise, although they be ministred by evill men.

Nevertheless, it appertaineth to the discipline of the Church, that enquiry bemade of evil Ministers, and that they be accused by those that have knowledge of their offences: and finally being found guilty, by just judgement be deposed.

27.
Of Baptisme.

BAptisme is not onely a signe of profession, and mark of difference, whereby Christian men are discerned from others that be not Christned: but it is also a signe of Regeneration or new birth, whereby, as by an instrument, they that receive Baptisme rightly, are grafted into the Church: the promises of the forgivenesse of sinne, and of our adoption to be the sonnes of God, by the holy Ghost, are visibly signed and sealed: faith is confirmed: and grace increased by vertue of prayer unto God. The Baptisme of young children is in any wise to be retained in the Church, as most agreeable with the institution of Christ.

28.
Of the Lords Supper.

THe Supper of the Lord is not onely a signe of the love that Christians ought to have among them

themselves one to another: but rather it is a Sacrament of our redemption by Christs death. Insomuch that to such as rightly, worthily, and with faith receive the same, the bread which we break, is a partaking of the body of Christ: and likewise the Cup of blessing is a partaking of the Blood of Christ.

Transubstantiation (or the change of the substance of Bread and Wine) in the Supper of the Lord, cannot be proved by holy Writ: but it is repugnant to the plain words of Scripture, overthroweth the nature of a Sacrament, and hath given occasion to many superstitions.

The body of Christ is given, taken, and eaten in the Supper only after an heavenly and spirituall manner. And the mean whereby the Body of Christ is received and eaten in the Supper, is Faith.

The Sacrament of the Lords Supper was not by Christs ordinance reserved, carried about, lifted up, or worshipped.

29.

Of the wicked which eat not the Body of Christ in the use of the Lords Supper.

The wicked and such as be void of a lively faith, although they do carnally and visibly presse with their teeth (as S. Augustine saith) the Sacrament of the body and blood of Christ: yet in no wise are they partakers of Christ, but rather to their condemnation do eat and drink the signe or Sacrament of so great a thing.

Of

30.

Of both kindes.

THe Cup of the Lord is not to be denied to the Lay-people. For both the parts of the Lords Sacrament, by Christs ordinance and commandment, ought to be ministred to all Christian men alike.

31.

Of the one oblation of Christ finished upon the Crosse.

THe offering of Christ once made, is that perfect redemption, propitiation, and satisfaction for all the sinnes of the whole world, both originall and actuall, and there is none other satisfaction for sinne, but that alone. Wherefore the sacrifices of Masses, in the which it was commonly said, that the Priests did offer Christ for the quick and the dead, to have remission of pain or guilt, were blasphemous fables, and dangerous deceits.

32.

Of the mariage of Priests.

BIshops, Priests, and Deacons, are not commanded by Gods Law, either to vow the estate of single life, or to abstain from marriage: Therefore it is lawfull also for them, as for all other Christian men, to marrie at their own discretion, as they shall judge the same to serve better to godlinesse.

33.

Of excommunicate persons, how they are to be avoyded.

THat person which by open denuntiation of the Church, is rightly cut off from the unitie of the

Church, and excommunicated, ought to be taken of the whole multitude of the faithfull as an Heathen and Publicane, untill he be openly reconciled by Penance, and received into the Church by a Judge that hath authoritie thereunto.

34.
Of the Traditions of the Church.

IT is not necessary that Traditions and Ceremonies be in all places one, or utterly like, for at all times they have beene divers, and may be changed according to the diversitie of Countries, times, and mens maners, so that nothing be ordained against Gods Word. Whosoever through his private judgement, willingly and purposely doeth openly breake the Traditions and Ceremonies of the Church, which be not repugnant to the Word of God, and be ordained and approved by common authoritie, ought to be rebuked openly, (that other may fear to do the like) as he that offendeth against the common Order of the Church, and hurteth the authoritie of the Magistrate, and woundeth the consciences of the weak brethren.

Every particular or nationall Church, hath authoritie to ordain, change, and abolish Ceremonies or rites of the Church, ordained only by mans authoritie, so that all things be done to edifying.

35.
Of Homilies.

THe second Book of Homilies, the severall titles whereof we have joyned under this Article, doth contain a godly and wholsome Doctrine, and

and necessarie for these times, as doeth the former book of Homilies, which were set forth in the time of Edward the sixth: and therefore we judge them to be read in Churches by the Ministers diligently and distinctly, that they may be understanded of the people.

¶ Of the names of the Homilies.

1 OF the right use of the Church.
2 Against perill of Idolatry.
3 Of repairing and keeping clean of Churches.
4 Of good Works, first of Fasting.
5 Against gluttony and drunkennesse.
6 Against excesse of apparell.
7 Of Prayer.
8 Of the place and time of Prayer.
9 That common Prayers and Sacraments ought to be ministred in a known tongue.
10 Of the reverent estimation of Gods Word.
11 Of almes doing.
12 Of the Nativity of Christ.
13 Of the Passion of Christ.
14 Of the resurrection of Christ.
15 Of the worthy receiving of the Sacrament of the Body and blood of Christ.
16 Of the gifts of the holy Ghost.
17 For the Rogation dayes.
18 Of the state of Matrimonie.
19 Of Repentance.
20 Against idlenesse.
21 Against Rebellion.

36.

Of consecration of Bishops and Ministers.

THe Book of Consecration of Archbishops, and Bishops, and ordering of Priests, and Deacons, lately set forth in the time of Edward the sixth, and confirmed at the same time by authoritie of Parliament, doth contain all things necessary to such Consecration and ordering: neither hath it any thing, that of it self is superstitious and ungodly. And therefore, whosoever are consecrated or ordered according to the Rites of that Book, since the second yeer of the afore-named King Edward, unto this time, or hereafter shall be consecrated, or ordered according to the same Rites, we decree all such to be rightly, orderly, and lawfully consecrated and ordered.

37.

Of the civill Magistrates.

THe Queens Majestie hath the chiefe power in this Realm of England, and other her Dominions, unto whom the chief government of all Estates of this Realm, whether they be Ecclesiasticall or Civill, in all causes doth appertain, and is not, nor ought to be subject to any forrein Jurisdiction.

Where we attribute to the Queens Majestie the chief government, by which Titles we understand the mindes of some slanderous folks to be offended: we give not to our Princes the ministring, either of Gods word, or of the Sacraments, the which thing the Injunctions also lately set forth

forth by Elizabeth our Queene do most plainly testifie: but that onely prerogative which we see to have been given always to all godly Princes in holy Scriptures by God himself, that is, that they should rule all estates and degrees committed to their charge by God, whether they be Ecclesiasticall or Temporall, and restrain with the Civill sword the stubborne and evill doers.

The Bishop of Rome hath no Jurisdiction in this Realm of England.

The Lawes of the Realm may punish Christian men with death, for heinous and grievous offences.

It is lawfull for Christian men, at the commandment of the Magistrate, to wear weapons, and serve in the warres.

38.
Of Christian mens goods, which are not common.

The riches and goods of Christians are not common, as touching the right, title and possession of the same, as certain Anabaptists do falsly boast. Notwithstanding, every man ought of such things as he possesseth, liberally to give almes to the poor, according to his ability.

39.
Of a Christian mans oath.

As we confesse that vain and rash swearing is forbidden Christian men by our Lord Jesus Christ, and James his Apostle: So we judge that Christian Religion doth not prohibite, but that a

man may ſwear when the Magiſtrate requireth, in a cauſe of faith and charitie, ſo it be done according to the Prophets teaching, in juſtice, judgement, and trueth.

40.

The Ratification.

THis Book of Articles before rehearſed, is again approved, and allowed to be holden and executed within the Realm, by the aſſent and conſent of our Sovereigne Lady ELIZABETH by the grace of God of England, France and Ireland Queen, Defender of the Faith, &c. Which Articles were deliberately read, and confirmed again by the ſubſcription of the hand of the Arch-biſhop and Biſhops of the upper Houſe, and by the ſubſcription of the whole Clergie in the nether Houſe in their Convocation, in the yeer of our Lord 1571.

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